

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 257623

STADIS/////////////////
FOR JOEL BILLER USCIVAIR DEL

FOLLOWING REPEAT ABIDJAN 10378 ACTION SECSTATE INFO DAKAR
OCT 21.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 10378

STADIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, SG
SUBJECT: CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS IN SENEGAL

REF: STATE 252176

1. ENTIRE USDEL VERY MUCH AWARE OF USG INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT
POLICY AND OF ITS INSTRUCTIONS. DEADLOCK AFTER DEADLOCK CREATED
SITUATION WHEREIN EITHER MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE LANGUAGE WAS CREATED
OR THERE WOULD BE NO AGREEMENT RESULTING IN POSSIBLE CURTAILMENT
OF PAA FLYING TO DAKAR. TO REFRESH DEPARTMENT'S MEMORY PAA HAS
OPERATED WITHOUT A GOS PERMIT SINCE LAST YEAR, FLYING ONLY ON A
GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOS MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PREVIOUS
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AMBASSADOR.

2. A CAREFUL READING OF THE TEXT SHOULD HAVE MADE READILY APPARENT
FACT THAT US BENEFITS RECEIVED IN ENTIRE PACKAGE FAR OUTWEIGHED
ANY ELEMENTS WHICH MIGHT POSSIBLY BE CONSTRUED AS UNDESIRABLE.
USDEL VIEWS PACKAGE AS SUBSTANTIAL MODIFICATION OF UNILATERAL
CONTROL SENEGAL PRESENTLY EXERCISES.

3. USDEL CONSIDERS THAT A REASONABLE READING OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND INTERPRETATION OF TEXT IN MOU ON FILING OF SCHEDULE, IS THAT SINCE UNOBJECTIONABLE PORTIONS GO INTO IMMEDIATE EFFECT, IT IS ONLY ON CONTESTED PORTIONS WHERE A PARTY MUST CONSULT. OBJECTIONABLE ELEMENTS REMAIN AT STATUS QUO UNTIL CONSULTATIONS HELD. WHEN A PARTY CONSIDERS CONSULTATIONS COMPLETED IT IS FREE TO TAKE ANY MEASURES NECESSARY ON THE ISSUE.

4. USDEL UNANIMOUS, INCLUDING ADVISOR AND PAA REP, THAT IMPORTANCE OF SENEGAL TO INTRODUCTION OF PAA 747 PROGRAM AND RISK OF JEOPARDIZING ITS ENTIRE OPERATION WOULD OBSTRUCT OVERALL US AIRLINE TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA. UNANIMOUS JUDGEMENT OF USDEL BASED ON FACT THAT IT HAD ALREADY BROKEN OFF NEGOTIATIONS BECAUSE OF GOS INTRANSIGENCE BUT THAT REAPPRAISAL BY HIGHEST GOS OFFICIALS CAUSED USDEL TO DELAY DEPARTURE IN ORDER TO REACH COMPROMISE. SOLUTION IS IN BEST INTERESTS OF USG. AS IS CASE WITH EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, CONSORTIUM ELEMENTS OF AIR AFRIQUE REQUIRED SPECIAL TREATMENT WHICH WILL NOT CREATE A PRECEDENT.

5. IN ORDER TO PLACE ALL ELEMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS INTO PROPER PERSPECTIVE, AND TO PREVENT MISINTERPRETATION, REQUEST SUBSTANTIVE INTERAGENCY DISCUSSION OF THIS AD REFERENDUM MATTER BE DEFERRED UNTIL USDEL RETURNS TO WASHINGTON.

6. FYI: TODAY WILL CONCLUDE AGREEMENT WITH IVORY COAST THAT
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INCLUDES MUTUAL SUPPORT FOR INNOVATIVE LOW FARES, PROMOTION OF CHARTERS, AIRLINE CHOICE IN GROUND HANDLING AND ALL ROUTE RIGHTS REQUIRED FOR PRESENT AND ANTICIPATED U.S.; SERVICES WITHOUT GRANT TO IVORY COAST OF SECOND U.S. POINT OR CARIBBEAN POINTS. THERE ARE NO DEVIATIONS FROM BERMUDA. USDEL VIEW THAT ACCORD WITH SENEGAL KEY TO TYING DOWN EXPANDED AFRICAN NETWORK, INCLUDING IVORIAN ACCORD, AND THAT SPECIAL TREATMENT OF SENEGAL COULD BE AVOIDED IN SUBSEQUENT AGREEMENTS APPEARS CONFIRMED.

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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